

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment in response to the final Office Action of July 22, 2010 is being timely filed together with a Petition for a three-month extension of time and a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

Claims 2 - 48 are presently pending. Applicants cancel claims 6, 7, 31 and 32 without prejudice or disclaimer, and amend claims 2, 3, 25, 27, 28 and 29. No new matter is introduced.

Objections to Claims

Claim 25 is objected to as having been presented in a Response of April 29, 2010 together with an inappropriate status identifier. Claim 25 is presently amended, and presented with the appropriate status identifier ("Currently Amended"). Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to claim 25 be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 2 - 24 are rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner finds that it is unclear with reference to claim 2 whether the terms "power supply interface" and "power interface" are distinct. Applicants affirm that the terms are distinct, and in the interests of prosecution efficiency, amend the term "power interface" to read "power port" to further emphasize this distinction. This amendment is supported, for example, at page 33, line 20 through page 34, line 9 of Applicants' specification.

Applicants submit therefore that, as the distinctions between the cited claim terms are now clear, that the rejections of claims 2 - 24 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 have been overcome, and respectfully request that these rejections be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 2-4, 8-15, 17, 20, 22, 23, 25-29, 33-39, 41 and 45-47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0083266 A1 to Comstock et al. in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0072892 A1 to Shirley et al. and U.S. Patent No. 6,557,170 to Wilder et al. Claims 5 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Comstock in view of Shirley, Wilder and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0198978 A1 to Watkins. Claims 6, 7, 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Comstock in view of Shirley, Wilder and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0084056 A1 to DeAnna et al. Claims 16, 18, 19, 21, 40 and 42-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Comstock in view of Shirley, Wilder and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0042547 A1 to Coleman. Claims 24 and 38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Comstock in view of Shirley, Wilder and U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0055922 A1 to Kim et al.

As claims 6, 7, 31 and 32 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, the rejections as to claims 6, 7, 31 and 32 are moot. Applicants amend claims 2, 3, 25, 27, 28 and 29 to further clarify the nature of their invention, and respectfully traverse the rejections of claims 2 - 6, 8 - 30 and 33 - 48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Amended independent claims 2 and 25 respectively claim a remote management system and an apparatus for selectively coupling a computer to remote servers having KVM interfaces, remote serial devices having serial interfaces and remote power supplies. Each of the claimed system and claimed apparatus comprise an option menu circuit that generates a display screen for the computer workstation to simultaneously identify list the remote servers and remote serial devices available for selection, to generate screens for controlling one or more remote servers and/or remote serial devices, and to generate a screen for selecting and controlling one or more of the remote power supplies. Applicants respectfully submit that none of the cited references, either alone or in combination, teach or suggest the features of Applicants' claimed option menu circuit and its associated display screen.

With reference to canceled claims 6, 7, 31 and 32, the Examiner acknowledges that the features of Applicants' claimed option menu circuit and display are not disclosed by Comstock, Shirley and Wilder, but suggests that this deficiency is overcome with the addition of DeAnna. Applicants respectfully disagree. DeAnna discloses a lightweight application server for use on portable or embedded devices (for example, PDAs) to provide server functionality among the portable devices (see, e.g., paragraph [0007] of DeAnna. The lightweight application server includes an administration tool ("OTA Administrator 45") that is capable of providing a drop-down menu for the selection of a desired server (see, e.g., paragraph [0047] of DeAnna). However, and in sharp contrast to Applicants' claimed option menu circuit, DeAnna does not teach or suggest a tool that provides a display screen integrating multiple menus and control windows for selecting among a number of remote servers and a number of remote serial devices, for controlling one or more selected remote servers and remote serial devices, and for selecting among a number of remote power supplies and controlling a selected power supply to supply power to one or more of the selected remote servers and remote serial devices (see, e.g., page 30, line 11 through page 31, line 14 of Applicants' specification and Applicants' FIG. 2).

For at least this reason, Applicants submit that amended independent claims 2 and 25 are not made obvious by the cited references and stand in condition for allowance. As claims 3 - 5 and 8 - 24 depend either directly or indirectly from allowable independent claim 2, and claims 26 - 30 and 33 - 48 depend either directly or indirectly from allowable independent claims 24, Applicants further submit that dependent claims 3 - 5, 8 - 24, 26 - 30 and 33 - 48 are also allowable for at least this reason.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejections of claims 2 - 6, 8 - 30 and 33 - 48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Authorization is hereby given to charge Deposit Account no. 03-3839 for any underpayment, or to credit any overpayments.

Please address all correspondence to the correspondent address for **Customer No. 26345 of Intellectual Docket Administrator, Gibbons P.C.**, One Gateway Center, Newark, NJ 07102. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below if the Examiner believes any issue can be resolved through either a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment.

Dated: January 24, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Thomas J. Bean
Reg. No. 44,528
Gibbons P.C.
One Gateway Plaza
Newark, New Jersey 07102-5310
(973) 596-4779